



Chester County, Pennsylvania

established 1725

London Britain Township Newsletter

March 2004

ATTENTION DAY CARE PROVIDERS & USERS

All day care centers are required to have an emergency operations plan on file with their township. The plan should address the day care's plan for evacuation points and shelter in the event of an emergency such as tornadoes, floods, fires, etc.

The township urges parents who use local day care to familiarize themselves with the day care's emergency plan.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency, the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency, and Homeland Security have mandated this procedure. All registered day care centers were notified of this mandate by the PA Department of Family Services. Dave Massaros, LBT Director of Public Works, is available to help all day care centers comply.

REPUBLICAN COMMITTEE WOMAN NEEDED— SECOND REQUEST!

A woman is needed as one of LBT's delegates to the Chester County Republican Committee. For more information contact Janie Schnelle at 610-274-8347. As LBT's representative to the Chester County Republican Committee, you would help recruit and nominate people for local races and attend the county's annual convention.

FOCUS ON WATERSHEDS AND STORM WATER MAINTENANCE

Janie Schnelle, Glenn Frederick, John Matalon

Water is an integral part of life in the community as we have all witnessed over the past few years. From water restrictions during the recent droughts to flooding during the recent storms, water has a huge impact on our daily lives. Protecting the water supply and the quality of the water we drink should be a priority for all of us.

As stewards of our township, the Supervisors work to balance the needs of everyone in the community. The more impervious surfaces (houses, parking lots, roads), the less land that is available to soak in rain water. This causes problems of flooding during heavy rainfalls. Throughout our region flooding is becoming more frequent because of the increasing amounts of impervious surfaces.

Enclosed with this newsletter is a brochure produced by the Pennsylvania Department of Natural Resources, "When It Rains, it Drains." The topic is storm water management and how it effects your life and the environment. The State of Pennsylvania considers this so important they have asked all

townships to distribute this brochure to its residents.

Do you know what happens to the rain that falls on your property? Does it seep into the ground? Does it roll down your driveway into the street? What creek or stream does it flow to? What rivers do the small streams near your house connect to? What watershed does the rain eventually flow into? Check out the map on page 3 that focuses on the creeks, streams, and rivers in our community.

Understanding the role we all play in the greater watershed helps us understand the need for storm water management. The Chester County Water Resources Authority has great resources on Watershed Stewardship. Page 3 of this newsletter features information and tips on this topic excerpted from their web site: www.chesco.org/water.html. Each property is it's own "mini-watershed" and everything we do to improve our properties improves the streams, creeks, rivers and bays to which our water flows.

DEER FEEDER PROGRAM UPDATE

Thank you to the over 60 residents that volunteered to host a deer feeder on your property. Two areas of the township remain in need of a host. They are the Country Walk development, Flint Hill Crossing, and Mercer Mill Road toward the Landenberg Store. Any residents in these areas should call the township office to volunteer to host a feeder.

As of press time the DEP has not yet approved the deer feeders for use in the state of Pennsylvania. The approval is expected at any time and the feeders will be ordered and installed shortly thereafter.

TOWNSHIP COMMISSION REPORTS

LONDON BRITAIN LAND TRUST

**Joan Cunningham*, Joe McNelis, Rick Darke
Howard Mannheim, Melinda Zoehrer,
Margaret Boddie, John Matalon,
Warren Davies, Aileen Parrish**

The preservation of open space is the priority of the London Britain Land Trust. The LBLT Board of Trustees are monitoring the open spaces in our community and will act as appropriate to preserve the lands identified in the Mason-Dixon Greenway and other parcels in the township.

On June 5 (rain or shine) the LBLT will hold an Open House Educational Nature Hike on the new trail of the Mason Dixon Greenway and the connecting park. Rick

Darke, a nationally renowned author on wild plants and township resident, will lead the hike. Call Joe McNelis at 610-274-0262 for meeting place and time.

Recently a hedgerow was approved for Flint Hill Crossing's Open Space between Lot 5 and the Cunningham property. Native trees and shrubs will be used for the hedgerow.

For more information visit our website at: www.lblandtrust.org.

PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

**Judy Emory*, Frank Parrish, Andrea Dunmire,
John Matalon, Dave Kujala, Barry Stingel, Gary
Schroeder and Peter Benedetti**

THE PLAYGROUND IS OPEN! Bring the kids and explore this new addition to Nichol Park. During those first nice days of March, the township crew installed an underground drainage system around the new play structure. They graded and filled the area with 100 yards of mulch.

The Parks Commission wishes to thank the community for their patience and cooperation in not using the equipment until all the work had been completed.

The renovated playing field is now available for use by

softball, soccer, and t-ball teams. Call Carolyn at the Township Office- 610-255-0388 to schedule playing time.

A community event to formally open the playground is being planned for later this spring. Anyone wishing to help in the planning should contact Judy Emory at 610-255-0543.

Just a reminder: The Mason-Dixon Greenway trail (Elbow Lane to Flint Hill Road) is open. A small gravel parking area is available on Flint Hill Road near the intersection with Strickersville-Lewisville Rd.

PLANNING COMMISSION

**Joe McNelis*, Bob Young, Sally Cheyne,
Kathy Riding and Nancy Moshel-Morris**

There are two open applications for new subdivisions within the township. The first is London Britain Station being planned for the Nichol property on the corner of 869 and Flint Hill Road. The second is Windsor, a small subdivision on Chambers Rock Road.

Both the London Britain Station and Windsor subdivisions will require sewer plants. The Planning

Commission is working with the developers' engineers to design adequate sewer plants to meet the needs of the subdivisions. Once complete this will bring the total number of sewer plants in the township to three.

The Planning Commission is also working on two new ordinances: driveways and parking spaces for commercial properties.

HISTORICAL COMMISSION

**Aileen Parrish*, Martin Wells, Calvin Bourgeault,
Maggie Lidz, Tom Zawislak, and Cyril Caster**

The Historical Commission created a register of historical properties in the township and flagged tax parcels of historical interest a few years ago.

The Commission has received many inquiries about accepting donations of historical artifacts from the area, but is not accepting any because there is no place to save them. They are maintaining a collection

of historical photographs of the area.

Future plans call for interviewing longtime residents about life in London Britain Township over the years.

The Historical Commission is looking for new people to help them with their ambitious plans. Anyone interested in joining can contact Aileen Parrish at 610-274-8453.

RECYCLING COMMISSION

Gail Bobish*

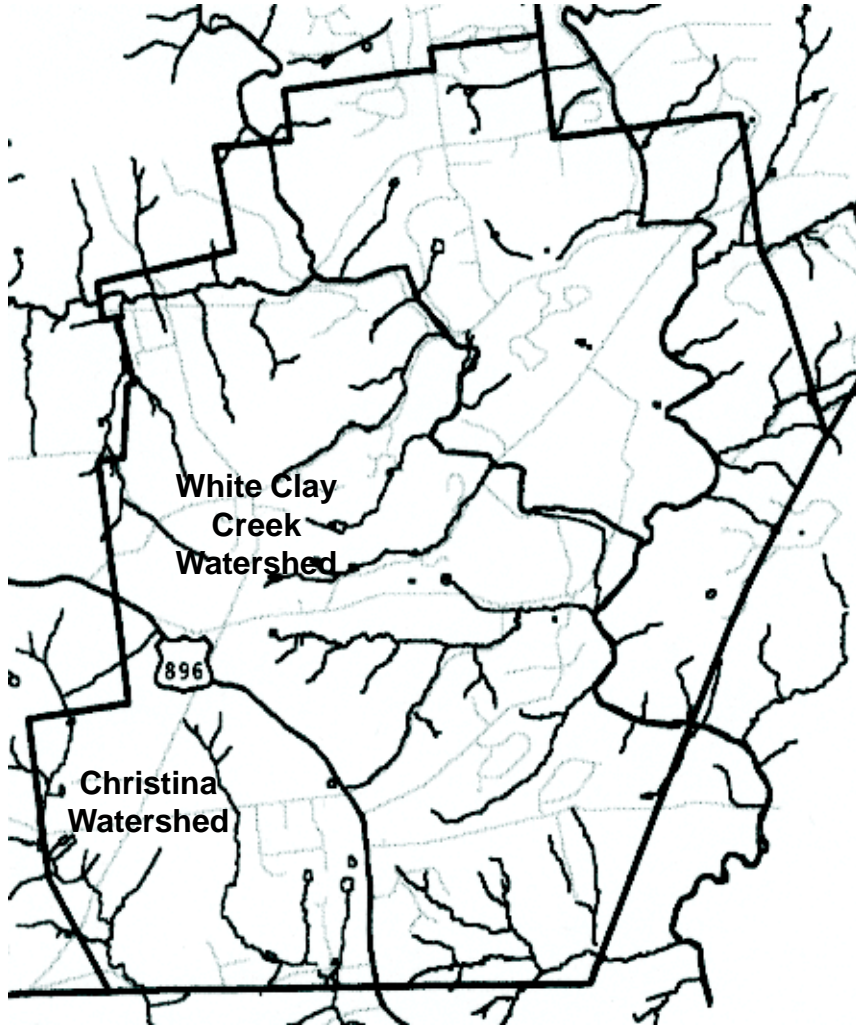
For residents that do not use curbside recycling with their trash pickup, LBT and Franklin Township continue to maintain a recycling center at the Franklin Township Building (off Appleton Road, next to the Kemblesville Post Office). The center is open on

Saturdays from 9:00 AM to 11:30 AM.

Recyclables include paper, glass, aluminum and hi-metal cans, plastic (soda, milk, water and detergent bottles), and corrugated cardboard.

* denotes Commission chairperson

YOUR PROPERTY--- YOUR MINI-WATERSHED



According to the Chester County Water Resources pamphlet *Watershed Stewardship... it's up to you!*, "All land no matter how large or small the parcel, is a piece of at least one watershed. Even if there is no stream within sight, your land is a piece of a watershed's puzzle"

Futhermore the pamphlet goes on to explain, "Every property has the three basic elements of a watershed:

- Land surface (including your rooftops) that catches the rainfall and directs the runoff into runoff pathways;
- drainage ways, either natural or manmade, that collect and drain the water from the land surface; and
- a ground-water aquifer that underlies your property."

The map at left shows the streams in our township and the watersheds where they flow. Streams to the west of Route 896 flow into the Christina River Watershed, which flows into the Delaware River, and then the Delaware Bay. Streams to the east of Route 896 flow into the White Clay Creek Watershed, which flows into the Christina River, and from there to the Delaware River and Delaware Bay.

TIPS FOR WATERSHED HOUSEKEEPING

(excerpted from the Chester County Water Resource Authority's pamphlet- "Watershed Stewardship...it's up to you!")

Plant more trees and bushes

Plants and bushes help to "break the fall" of raindrops and slow the flow of runoff and erosion.

Don't mow right up to the stream bank

This will allow for better protection of the stream bank from erosion. Plants and bushes along a stream bank protects the stream and its living resources. The wider the buffer along the stream bank the better.

Redirect downspouts

Grassy areas and flower gardens benefit from the rain instead of drive-

ways and sidewalks where the rain runs off.

Always properly dispose of household hazardous substances

Paints, used oil, batteries, tires, household cleaners, solvents, pesticides, sealants and fertilizers are hazardous to plants, wildlife, and humans. Do not pour these into your sink drains, nearby storm drains, or onto your land.

Have your on-lot septic tank emptied

If the tank is not emptied regularly the tank can overflow causing sewage to

back up into your house or raw sewage can be discharged into the ground and into the ground water.

Install a rain barrel

At one or more of you downspouts a rain barrel will capture the water that can then be used to water your garden and flower beds.

Remove pet waste

Pet waste can be carried into the streams and can be a serious source of pollution. Properly disposing of your pet's waste regularly is important.

For more information:

www.chesco.org/water.html

London Britain Township Directory

Board of Supervisors

Janie Schnelle, Chairman
Glenn C. Frederick, Vice Chairman
John Matalon, Member

Township Employees

Township Secretary- Sally Cheyne
Director of Public Works-Dave Messaros
Assist. Township Secretary- Carolyn Matalon
Roadmaster- Joe Ferguson
Township Engineer- Pat Walsh/Walsh Engr.
Tax Collector- Margaret Boddie
Treasurer- Nette Stejskal
Park Director- Carolyn Matalon
Newsletter Editor- Carla Lucas

Township Office/Meeting Hall/Garage

81 Good Hope Road
Landenberg, PA 19350

Mailing Address:

P. O. Box 215, Kemblesville, PA 19347

Phone: 610-255-0388

Fax: 610-255-3542

Email: carolyn.londonbritaintwp@comcast.net

Web site:

www.londonbritaintownship-pa.gov

Township Meetings

All meetings are held at the LBT Meeting Hall

Board of Supervisors Meetings:
2nd and 4th Mondays, 7 PM

Planning Commission Meetings:
2nd and 4th Tuesdays, 7 PM

LOCAL DONATION CENTERS

With the coming of spring, comes the "urge to purge." Many of us take our used, but still good, items to collection centers out of our community. Highlighted below are three places in the county that serve our residents and could use our help.

- Kitchen tables and chairs
- Sofas and chairs
- Pots, pans, dishes
- Bed and bath linens
- Baby cribs, strollers

For more information or to schedule a donation of items, call Mickey Broyles, 610-429-0822.

THE BRIDGE

The Church of the Nazarene on State Road in West Grove has recently opened a food pantry and clothing closet to help residents with short term needs. Items needed are:

- Food - canned goods plus frozen foods such as turkeys
- Seasonal Clothing- all sizes
- Baby items, formula, diapers
- Personal care items
- Linens and housewares

For more information or to arrange a donation, call 610-869-9500.

LIONS SHARE

The West Chester Daybreak Lions Club's **Lions Share** program recycles household items to individuals and families referred to the club by local social service agencies. Families moving out of shelters are grateful for furniture and other household items as they transition into permanent housing.

On the fourth Saturday of every month the Lions Share warehouse is open for drop-off of items. The most requested items include:

- Mattresses and box springs

NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES

Neighborhood Services Center (NSC) is located in Oxford. Working with a variety of county and state services, NSC provides emergency and long-term assistance to people in need. Among their many services is a food room and clothing room.

Their needs include:

- Blankets, towels, sheets, curtains
- Baby equipment
- Infant/children's clothing
- Paper products
- Personal care products
- Diapers
- Canned and nonperishable food
- Used toys and books.

Adopt-A-Friend is a program provided at NSC where a volunteer is matched with a lonely, isolate, shut-in elderly or disabled individual. The volunteer visits their friend on a regular basis to provide friendship and assistance.

For more information on the services at NSC, to donate items, or volunteer your services, please call 610-869-8557.

London Britain Township
P. O. Box 215
Kemblesville, PA 19347

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